

**STAPLES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE CONNECTICUT BASEBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 2, 2023) — In its 38<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Hiro Wyatt** of **Staples High School** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year**. Wyatt is the third Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Player of the Year to be chosen from Staples High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Wyatt as Connecticut's best high school baseball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Baseball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Wyatt joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Jackson Holliday (2021-22, Stillwater High School, Okla.), Bobby Witt Jr. (2018-19, Colleyville Heritage High School, Texas), Clayton Kershaw (2005-06, Highland Park High School, Texas) and Derek Jeter (1991-92, Kalamazoo High School, Mich.).

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound senior right-handed pitcher and designated hitter posted a 7-0 record on the mound with a 0.67 ERA and 90 strikeouts against just 10 walks in 41.2 innings pitched, leading the Wreckers to a 16-4 record entering Connecticut's Class LL state tournament. Wyatt had not allowed a run in his previous 31.1 innings pitched entering the postseason. The state's No. 1 rated prospect in the Class of 2023 according to Perfect Game, he also hit .359 with three homers, 15 RBI, 18 runs and a 1.025 OPS through 20 games.

Wyatt has volunteered locally with the Special Olympics and has helped fundraise for the St. Jude's Children Hospital. "Hiro displays all the attributes you want to see in a high school baseball player," said Greenwich High School head coach Adrian Arango. "He's a great player, teammate and student. He was dominant this year and always showed humility and great sportsmanship."

Wyatt has maintained a 3.63 weighted GPA in the classroom. He has signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball on scholarship at the University of Southern California this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Wyatt joins recent Gatorade Connecticut Baseball Players of the Year Matt Scott (2021-22, Joel Barlow High School), Connor Podeszwa (2020-21, Waterford High School), Jared Burrows (2019-20, Waterford High School), and Chad Knight (2018-19, Staples High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit [playeroftheyear.gatorade.com](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

###